



## Rev. Leatrice J. Teigen

1932 - 2026

Rev. Leatrice J. Teigen passed away on March 29, 2026, at Good Shepherd Community in Sauk Rapids, MN.

Leatrice was born March 2, 1932, in Browerville, MN to Everett and Anna (Franta) Tyrrell. For the first 9-½ years of her life, the family belonged to the rural Batavia Community Church of Christ in Browerville, MN. After a move to Staples, MN, Leatrice took confirmation classes at the Methodist Church which was closest to her home. Here she was baptized and confirmed. Her high school classmates convinced her to try the Lutheran Church. On her own, she took adult confirmation classes and being nurtured by the faithful preaching of the Word of God, Sunday after Sunday, Leatrice joined Faith Lutheran Church in Staples, MN, which was a part of the old ELC. The rest of the family soon followed. Pastor James Amundson was the pastor at that time. Leatrice served as Luther League President her senior year of high school.

Charles E. Teigen and Leatrice J. Tyrrell were married on September 8, 1951. Charles was her high school sweetheart. Together they raised six children; Julie, Connie, Carol, Clifford, Martin and Erling. Connie died from Aplastic Anemia in 1969. All their children were confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud, MN.

After graduating high school as co-valedictorian, she attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, for one year. She continued her studies at St. Cloud University, St. Cloud, MN and graduated with an AE degree in Elective Studies in 1987. This was done while Leatrice was working in multiple school libraries. Feeling the call to active ministry, she finished her college degree at the age of 56. In the fall of 1988, she attended Luther Northwestern Seminary, St. Paul, MN. She did her CPE at the VA Hospital, St. Cloud, MN in the summer of 1990. Her internship was completed at Zion Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN, under the supervision of Pastor James Armstrong. Having taken Hospice training previously at the St. Cloud Hospital, she was a part of a Grief Support Group in the Lake Region Hospice Group. She graduated with a D.Min. from Luther Seminary in 1992.

On July 18, 1993, Leatrice was ordained at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud, MN with Rev. Dee Pederson as Ordinator, Rev. Ron Koch as presiding Minister and Rev. Dr. Mark Hillmer as preacher. Leatrice was a devoted member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud, MN. She was called to Mount Hermon Lutheran Church, Annandale, MN where she served for many years. Pastor Leatrice retired on August 1, 2004.

Leatrice had a lifelong passion of reading, music, and swimming, all of which she shared with her husband. They were devoted members of the St. Cloud Municipal Band for 30 years. She played the flute and piccolo. She also loved to knit and cook. A lifelong learner she loved to connect with others and enjoyed hearing their life stories. Her children give warm thanks to the staff of Good Shepherd Community in Sauk Rapids, MN for their compassionate, personal care of their mother.

Leatrice was honored for the 25th anniversary of her ordination at the 2018 Southwestern MN Synod Assembly.

She is survived by her children Julie (Tom) Orr of Brainerd, MN; Carol (Jeff) Wingard of Eden Prairie, MN; Clifford (Marcia) Teigen of St. Joseph, MN; Marty (Karin Chedister) Teigen of Minneapolis, MN; Erling (Michelle) Teigen of Annandale. Twelve grandchildren, thirteen great grandchildren, two great, great grandchildren.



Leatrice was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Charles in 2021; daughter, Connie Teigen in 1969; grandson Matthew Orr; and brother Eugene Tyrrell.

A Memorial service will be held for immediate family only. Interment is in the Benton County Cemetery, Sauk Rapids, MN.

Leatrice's favorite verse was shared at her ordination.

*"You shall have a song as in the night when a holy feast is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one sets out to the sound of the flute to go to the mountain of the Lord, to the Rock of Israel."*

Isaiah 30:29





## Rev. Robert “Bob” D. Moritz 1935 - 2025

Rev. Bob Dwain Moritz passed away peacefully surrounded by family and love, on July 14, 2025, at 90 years, one month and 16 days of age.

Bob, the eldest son of Hans and Edna (Jorgensen) Moritz was born May 29, 1935. He grew up on his family’s 210-acre farm north of Estherville, IA where he helped run the Moritz Jersey Dairy alongside his mother, Aunt Martha, and brothers after his father’s sudden passing in 1946. Pastor Bob was baptized July 7, 1935, and confirmed into Christian faith November 19, 1960, by Rev. L. G. Hinderaker, both at Estherville Lutheran, Estherville, IA.

His public education was at Emmett Consolidated and Estherville High School graduating in 1953. Those early years shaped his strong faith, work ethic, and deep commitment to serving others. While in high school, he was an all-conference football and basketball player and he also competed in track. Bob never met a stranger. He loved a good joke, and believed laughter was the best medicine. Humble and warm, he made people feel at ease wherever he went.

In 1955, Bob enrolled at Waldorf College, Forest City, IA, graduating with an A.A. degree in 1957. He met Carol Irene Miller while they were both working in the college kitchen. While at Waldorf he played varsity basketball, was President of the freshman and sophomore classes and was President of Brotherhood.

He and Carol were married on August 17, 1958. They were blessed with three children, Stephen, Valorie and Stephanie. Together they made a strong foundation for their family, supporting each other in every aspect of life for over 66 years.

Pastor Bob attended Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN graduating with a B.A. in Sociology in 1959. He then attended Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN where he received his BD degree in 1963. He served an internship for one year under Rev. W. H. Schumacher at Hope Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD before answering his lifelong calling as a Lutheran minister. Bob was ordained at Estherville Lutheran by Rev. W. H. Schumacher on July 21, 1963.

He began his ministry at Our Savior’s Lutheran, Milroy, MN and Trinity Lutheran, Lucan, MN (1963-1968). They welcomed their son, Stephen while serving there. Their daughters, Valorie and Stephanie were born while he was serving Trinity Lutheran, Ottawa, IA (1968-1972).

The family then put down roots where Bob faithfully served Hadley Lutheran, Hadley, MN and Trinity Lutheran, Chandler, MN for over 30 years (1972-2003). The parishioners became like a second family as he baptized, confirmed, married, counseled and walked with multiple generations through both joyful celebrations and times of loss.

Bob wanted to help people first and foremost and it did not matter to him what faith, race, culture or age. His deep love and passion for helping others showed in his volunteer work and community leadership. He served on nearly 30 boards, championing causes like the Red Cross and 5th Step AA counseling. Bob was a constant presence at hospitals providing for the sick and suffering and did hundreds of in-home visits throughout his career to provide prayer and comfort for those who needed to be served. He and Carol even traveled to Central America on a mission trip to support those in need.



Pastor Bob and Carol passed on their love of adventure by tent camping with their kids and exploring 48 states. They also traveled through Europe and opened their home to eight exchange students, who quickly became like family, building lifelong friendships that crossed cultures, countries, and beliefs. Above all, he loved his family, especially his grandkids. He never missed a chance to cheer them on, swap stories, or share a good laugh. When he couldn't be there in person, he stayed close through calls, facetime, photos, and visits.

He also looked forward to long, lively phone calls with his brothers, filled with laughter and talk of faith, family and sports—his favorite trio. Pastor Bob was a lifelong Iowa Hawkeye fan who knew players and stats inside out. He followed the Boston Red Sox and Celtics with passion. Beyond sports he had a deep interest in politics and once ran for State Senate, driven by his commitment to being the voice for the underserved.

He shared his faith in quiet, everyday ways. He was known for his kindness, genuine compassion and the way he always made time for each person he met. He retired on July 1, 1963.

Pastor Moritz was honored at the 2025 Southwestern MN Synod Assembly for 62 years of ministry.

Family members left to cherish his memory include his wife, Carol, Grinnell, IA; three children Stephen (Ann Wolf), Granite Falls, MN; Valorie (Gary) Larsson, Grinnell, IA; and Stephanie (Michael) Moran, Clive, IA.; grandchildren Nicole Galles; Michael (Christina); Erica, Taylor and Nicolas Moritz; Thea Larsson; and Matthew, Anthony and Mason Moran; great-grandchildren Kiana; Tara; Tylinn; Kayson and Kinley; brother James (Harriet Ramy); sisters-in-law Gloria Moritz and Irene Miller, several nieces and nephews and their families. Their exchange student family members include Joshua, Ramon, Stephane, Jean George, Manuel, Ruben, Mari Carmen and Marek.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Ronald, Kenneth, Leonard, Dale and infant siblings Virginia and Dennis, special aunt Martha Jorgenson, parents-in-law Orval and Myrtle (Reed) Miller, brother-in-law Donald Miller and sister-in-law Mary Ann Moritz.

A memorial service was held Friday, July 25, 2025, at Hadley Lutheran, Hadley, MN with Rev. Bob Ossefoort and Rev. David Teig officiating. The organist was Mary Norgstahl. Special Music "Prayer of St. Francis" by Kelly Sullivan and Darbie Moran; "On Eagles Wings" by Jon Miller' and "Amazing Grace" by the Family. Congregational singing was "I Was There To Hear Your Boring Cry" and "How Great Thou Art". Pallbearers were Nicole Galles; Michael Moritz; Erica Moritz; Taylor Moritz; Nicholas Moritz; Hans Larsson; Thea Larsson; Matthew Moran; Anthony Moran; and Mason Moran. Interment is at the Highland Home Cemetery, Hadley, MN.

Blessed be Bob's memory.

